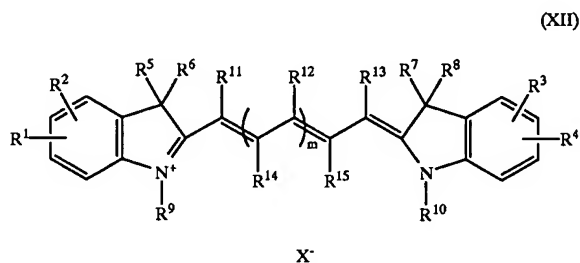


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.173(b)

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification at col. 17, line 4 to col. 18, line 19, by substituting the following text:

As a compound which generates heat upon absorbing light in the present invention, a compound may be added to the layer (B) such that the compound has the function of lowering the [solubi I ity] solubility of the resin, which [have] has a phenolic hydroxyl group and is a constituent material of the layer (B), and further, the above dissolution-lowering function is lowered by heating. Examples of the compound include a compound represented by the following formula (XII).



The above compound has a property of absorbing light to generate heat wherein the absorption region is from 700 nm to 1200 nm in the infrared region, and has a good compatibility with an aqueous alkali solution-soluble resin, and is a basic dye. This compound can control the [solubi I ity] solubility of the resin to an aqueous alkali solution by the interaction with the resin, because the compound has groups in the molecule, such as an ammonium group, iminium group and the like, which can interact with the aqueous alkali solution-soluble resin. Therefore, it may be suitably used in the present invention.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.173(b)

In the above general formula (XII), R^1 to R^4 each independently represents an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkoxy group, a cycloalkyl group or an aryl group which may have a hydrogen atom or a substituent and each has 1 to 12 carbon atoms, and R^1 and R^2 , R^3 and R^4 may [binds] be linked to each other to form a ring. Concrete examples of R^1 to R^4 include a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, an ethyl group, a phenyl group, a dodecyl group, a naphthyl group, a vinyl group, an allyl group, a cyclohexyl group and the like. When these groups have a substituent, the substituent may be a halogen atom, a carbonyl group, a nitro group, a nitril group, a sulfonyl group, a carboxyl group, carboxylate, sulfonate and the like.

R^5 to R^{10} each independently represents an alkyl group or aryl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, which may have a substituent, and concrete examples of R^5 to R^{10} include a methyl group, an ethyl group, a phenyl group, a dodecyl group, a naphthyl group, a vinyl group, an allyl group, a cyclohexyl group and the like. When these groups have a substituent, the substituent is a halogen atom, a carbonyl group, a nitro group, a nitril group, a sulfonyl group, a carboxyl group, carboxylate, sulfonate and the like.

R^{11} to R^{13} respectively represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 8 carbon atoms, which may have a substituent, and R^{12} may [line] be linked to R^{11} or R^{13} to form a ring. When m is [larger than] 2 or more, plural R^{12} groups, which may be the same or different, may link to each other to form a ring. Examples of R^{11} to R^{13} include a chlorine atom, a cyclohexyl group, a [cyclopentyl] cyclopentyl ring or cyclohexyl ring obtained by combining R^{12} groups with each other and the like. When these groups have a substituent, examples of the substituent include a halogen atom, a carbonyl group, a nitro group, a nitrile group, a sulfonyl group, a carboxyl group, carboxylate, sulfonate and the like. In addition, m stands for an integer of 1 to 8, preferably 1 to 3.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.173(b)

R^{14} and R^{15} independently represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 8 carbon atoms, which may have a substituent, and R^{14} may be linked to R^{15} to form a ring. When m is [larger than] 2 or more, a plurality of [R^{12} may combined] R^{14} groups, which may be the same or different, may be linked to each other to form a ring. Examples of R^{14} or R^{15} include a chlorine atom, a cyclohexyl group, a [cyclopentyl] cyclopentyl ring or cyclohexyl ring obtained by combining R^{14} groups with each other and the like. When these groups have a substituent, the substituent [include] includes a halogen atom, a carbonyl group, a nitro group, a nitrile group, a sulfonyl group, a carboxyl group, carboxylate, sulfonate and the like. In addition, m stands for an integer of 1 to 8, preferably 1 to 3.